

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claim 2 without prejudice or disclaimer as to its subject matter and newly add claim 34 by this amendment as follows:

1. (Previously Presented) A sound producing display system, comprising:
a postcard capable of playing back a customized message, said postcard comprising:
a memory storing the customized message as an audio message;
a playback button borne by said postcard enabling a user to manually initiate playback of said audio message stored in said memory;
a speaker disposed to convert said audio message from said memory into audible sound;
a battery energizing said postcard and said system; and
an audio board having an IC voice synthesizer chip attached thereto, said audio board being operationally connected to said system when said postcard is removably inserted into said system to accommodate recordation of the customized message in said memory.

Claim 2 (Canceled)

3. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, further comprising:
a recording unit comprising:
a microphone recording the customized message onto said postcard;

4 a slot accommodating insertion of said postcard;
5 a plurality of electrical connectors forming an electrical contact to said postcard; and
6 a record button to activate said microphone to allow the customized message to be
7 recorded on said postcard.

1 4. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, said memory comprising an EEPROM
2 being automatically overwritten by a subsequently recorded message.

1 5. (Original) The system of claim 1, said postcard being 5.5 mm thick and capable of being
2 mailed through the postal service.

1 6. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 3, with said recording unit being absent a
2 power supply when said postcard is not electrically connected to said system.

1 7. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 3, with said recording unit having a width
2 less than 7.25 inches and a height of not more than 4 inches.

1 8. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 3, with said postcard having a plurality of
2 guide slots to mate with corresponding ones of a plurality of guide pins on said recording unit so that
3 a plurality of electrical fingers emanating from said audio board of said postcard mate with
4 corresponding ones of said plurality of electrical connectors on said recording unit.

1 9. (Original) A method for recording a customized message on a recordable postcard, said
2 method comprising the steps of:

3 inserting said postcard having a thickness less than or equal to 5.5 mm into a slot of a
4 recording unit, said postcard forming electrical contact with said recording unit;

5 depressing a record button on said recording unit activating a microphone on said recording
6 unit; and

7 recording a first message onto said postcard by talking into a microphone disposed on said
8 recording unit.

1 10. (Original) The method of claim 9, further comprising the steps of:

2 pressing a playback button on said postcard immediately after said recording step to listen
3 to said first message stored in a memory on said postcard; and

4 recording a second message onto said card by pressing said record button on said recording
5 unit.

1 11. (Original) The method of claim 10, said second message overwrites said first message
2 in said memory on said postcard.

1 12. (Original) The method of claim 9, further comprising the steps of:

2 pressing a playback button on said postcard immediately after said recording step to listen

3 to said first message stored in a memory on said postcard; and

4 removing said postcard from said recording unit if a user deems said first message is
5 satisfactory.

1 13. (Original) The method of claim 11, further comprising the steps of:

2 pressing a playback button on said postcard immediately after said recording step to listen
3 to said second message stored in a memory on said postcard; and

4 removing said postcard from said recording unit if a user deems said second message is
5 satisfactory.

1 14. (Previously Presented) A sound producing display system, comprising

2 a postcard comprising:

3 a battery disposed to energize said postcard during play-back of said audio message and
4 energizing said recording unit during recording of said audio message;

5 a voice synthesizer;

6 a memory storing said audio message;

7 a plurality of electrical pin sockets that electrically attach to a recording unit;

8 a speaker producing audio signals based of said audio message stored in said memory; and

9 a playback button that takes said audio message stored in said memory and produces audio
10 sound by said speaker;

11 said postcard being less than 5.5 mm thick and having a length less than 6 inches and a height

less than 4 inches and a weight less than 1.5 ounces.

15. (Original) The postcard of claim 14, said batteries, said voice synthesizer, said memory, said speaker, said playback button and said plurality of electrical pin sockets all being disposed on a printed circuit board (PCB) having a length less than 90 mm and a height less than 50mm.

16. (Original) The postcard of claim 15, said PCB being encased with plastic, both sides of said postcard being covered with vinyl enabling a user to write messages on both sides of said postcard.

17. (Original) The postcard of claim 15, said memory being an EEPROM memory, said memory being overwritten each time a user records a new message, said EEPROM memory capable of storing audio messages having a duration of 20 seconds..

18. (Original) The postcard of claim 14, said memory being stored in a voice synthesizer IC chip, said memory enabling a user to record an audio message of 20 seconds, said postcard further comprising a printed circuit board having said voice synthesizer chip embedded therein, said playback button, said speaker and said batteries being disposed on said postcard away from said PCB, said speaker, said playback button and said batteries being electrically connected to said PCB.

1 19. (Previously Presented) A sound producing display system, comprising:
2 a postcard having a thickness not to exceed 5.5 mm, said postcard comprising:
3 - a memory storing up to 20 seconds of an audio message;
4 a voice synthesizer chip connected to said memory;
5 a battery electrically connected to energize said system;
6 a speaker converting electrical signals into audible sound electrically connected to
7 said voice synthesizer;
8 - a plurality of electrical connectors disposed on an edge of said postcard to form
9 electrical connection to a recording unit from electrical components in said postcard.

1 20. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 19, said voice synthesizer, said memory
2 and said plurality of electrical connectors being disposed on a printed circuit board (PCB) having
3 - a dimension not to exceed 40 mm long and 35 mm high, said speaker, said playback button and said
4 battery being disposed on said postcard at a distance from said PCB but being electrically connected
5 to said PCB.

1 - 21. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 19, said voice synthesizer, said memory,
2 said plurality of electrical connectors, said speaker, said playback button and said battery all being
3 disposed on a printed circuit board (PCB) having a length not to exceed 90 mm and a height not to
4 exceed 50mm.

1 22. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 19, comprising:

2 said recording unit having a weight less than one-half of one pound, said recording unit
3 electrically coupling to said postcard when said postcard is inserted into said recording unit, said
4 recording unit comprising:

5 a microphone for storing audio sound into said memory;

6 a recording button enabling said microphone when pressed.

1 - 23. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 14, comprising a vinyl layer covering
2 major surfaces of said postcard and accommodating handwritten message.

1 24. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 19, said recording unit being powered by
2 said battery disposed in said postcard when said postcard is electrically connected to the recording
3 unit.

1 25. (Original) The system of claim 19, said postcard being 4 inches by 6 inches and said
2 postcard being 1.35 ounces in weight.

1 26. (Original) The system of claim 19, said memory being an EEPROM wherein each
2 recording overwrites any previous recording stored in said EEPROM.

1 27. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 22, said recording unit being less than 7.25

2 inches long, 4 inches high and less than 3 inches thick, said postcard being 4 inches by 6 inches.

1 28. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 22, said recording unit having an LED that
2 lights up during recordation of an audio message.

1 29. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 19, said battery comprising a pair of
2 Lithium Ion 3 volt batteries being disposed in series.

1 30. (Original) The system of claim 20, said postcard being covered by vinyl enabling a user
2 to write on both sides of said postcard.

1 31. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 21, with said postcard being covered by
2 vinyl enabling a user to write on both sides of said postcard.

1 32. (Previously Presented) The postcard of claim 15, further comprising:
2 a pair of vinyl layers, one being on each side of the postcard, the vinyl layers being adapted
3 to allow a user to write a message thereon; and
4 foam arranged on portions of a space between the vinyl layers absent the PCB.

1 33. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 31, the postcard further comprising a foam
2 layer arranged within the postcard underneath the vinyl in portions absent said PCB.

1 34. (New) The system of claim 3, said recording unit further comprising an LED that turns
2 on when said microphone is activated.